

United States Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
State of Wyoming

CHARTER

PINEDALE ANTICLINE WORKING GROUP AND TASK GROUPS

1. OFFICIAL DESIGNATION: Pinedale Anticline Working Group and Task Groups (PAWG).
2. PURPOSE: The Pinedale Anticline Working Group and Task Groups will develop recommendations and provide advice to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) on matters pertinent to the oil and gas development of the Pinedale Anticline area, as described in the Pinedale Anticline Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Record of Decision (ROD). The Pinedale Anticline is an area of west central Wyoming, south of the town of Pinedale. It includes about 200,000 acres of rolling sagebrush covered lands that are about 80 percent federally managed surface and 83 percent federally managed minerals.
3. PAWG OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE: The PAWG, consisting of members from the BLM, the oil and gas industry, the environmental community, local governments, and the public-at-large, will function as a working group with oversight over several subcommittees, called Task Groups (TGs). The PAWG will establish these TGs to address specific issues. The TGs will report to the PAWG. The PAWG will provide advice and recommendations to the BLM Pinedale Field Office Manager on monitoring efforts related to the oil and gas development of the Pinedale Anticline area as described in the Pinedale Anticline EIS and ROD.
4. TERMINATION DATE: The BLM anticipates that a need for the PAWG will continue to exist for the next 10 to 15 years, the expected life of the project. The functions of the PAWG cannot be completed in less than 2 years. Continuation of the PAWG will be subject to periodic review and renewal every 2 years as required by Section 14(b) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 V.S.C., Appendix.
5. OFFICIAL TO WHOM THE PAWG REPORTS: The Designated Federal Officer (DFO) to whom the PAWG reports is as follows:

Field Manager, Pinedale Field Office
Bureau of Land Management
Department of the Interior
432 East Mill Street
P.O. Box 768
Pinedale, Wyoming 82941
6. ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT: Administrative support and funding for the activities of the PAWG will be provided by the Bureau of Land Management Pinedale Field Office.
7. ESTIMATED ANNUAL COST: Approximately 3 months of Federal employee support and \$5,000 will be expended annually. The BLM will provide the staff support and funding.
8. PAWG COMPOSITION AND SELECTION: The PAWG composition and selection will be as follows:
 - a. The PAWG will be composed of nine members who reside in the State of Wyoming. The PAWG members will be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the Secretary of the Interior (Secretary).

b. Members to the PAWG will be appointed as follows:

- A representative from the State of Wyoming, Office of the Governor
- A representative of the Town of Pinedale
- A representative of oil/gas operators active in the Pinedale Anticline area
- A representative from the Sublette County Government
- A representative of statewide or local environmental groups
- A representative of landowners within or bordering the Pinedale Anticline area
- A representative of livestock operators operating within or bordering the Pinedale Anticline area
- Two representatives from the public-at-large

c. All members should have demonstrated the ability to analyze and interpret data and information, evaluate proposals, identify problems, and promote the use of collaborative management techniques.

d. Representatives from the following Federal agencies may attend meetings to provide information to the PAWG, but serve in a nonvoting capacity:

- A representative from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- A representative from the Environmental Protection Agency
- A representative from the U.S. Forest Service, Bridger-Teton National Forest
- A representative from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

9. PAWG MEMBER SERVICE: The service of the PAWG members shall be as follows:

a. PAWG members will be appointed for 2-year terms by the Secretary, subject to removal by the Secretary. At the discretion of the Secretary, members may be reappointed to additional terms.

b. The Chairperson of the PAWG will be selected by the PAWG at its first meeting. The Chairman will be one of the nine members appointed by the Secretary. The term of the Chairperson will not exceed 2 years.

c. All members will serve without salary. Members shall be reimbursed for travel and per diem expenses at the current rates for government employees in accordance with the Secretary's travel regulations for attendance at PAWG functions.

d. The Secretary may, after written notice, terminate the service of a member if, in the judgment of the Secretary or his/her authorized representative, removal is in the public interest. Members may also be terminated if they no longer meet the requirements under which they were appointed; fail or are unable to participate regularly in PAWG work; or have violated Federal law or the regulations of the Secretary. When a member fails to regularly attend meetings, the DFO will inform the member, in writing, that his or her service on the PAWG could be terminated. When any member fails to attend three consecutive meetings, without good cause, the DFO or his/her designee may deem that member's position on the PAWG to have been vacated. Upon such determination, the DFO will inform the member, in writing, that his or her service on the PAWG is terminated.

e. Vacancies occurring by reason of resignation, death, failure to regularly attend PAWG meetings, or Secretarial removal will be filled for the balance of the vacating member's term in the same manner in which the original appointment was made.

10. DUTIES OF THE PAWG: The PAWG will provide advice and recommendations on matters relating to oil and gas development as described in the Record of Decision for the Pinedale Anticline area, including but not limited to: (1) the setting of goals and objectives for the monitoring of field development, (2) the drafting of monitoring plans needed to validate predictive models used in the EIS, and (3) the effectiveness of the mitigation measures contained in the Record of Decision for the Pinedale Anticline EIS. The PAWG will provide advice and recommendations on these matters to the BLM, but the final decisions will be made by the Pinedale Field Manager, or BLM Wyoming State Director.

To the extent authorized by law and regulations, PAWG is authorized to: (1) gather and analyze information developed by the TGs or from other sources, (2) hear public testimony, and (3) foster communications within the region regarding the activities associated with oil and gas development in the Pinedale Anticline EIS area. All PAWG recommendations will be made through consensus, and the PAWG will provide a forum for community contact. If consensus can not be reached, the BLM will be notified. The final decision making authority on matters related to public lands will remain with the BLM.

ETHICS RESPONSIBILITIES OF MEMBERS:

a. A member may not participate in matters that will directly affect, or appear to affect, the financial interests of the member or the member's spouse or minor children. Compensation from employment does not constitute a financial interest of the member so long as the matter before the Pinedale Anticline Working Group and Task Groups will not have a special or distinct effect " on the member or the member's employer, other than as part of a class. The provisions of this paragraph do not affect any other statutory or regulatory ethical obligations to which a member may be subject, including those in b., below.

b. As provided in 43 CFR Sec. 1784.2-2, members of the Council shall be required to disclose their direct or indirect interest in leases, licenses, permits, contracts, or claims that involve lands or resources administered by the BLM, or in any litigation related thereto. No Councilor subcommittee member shall participate in any matter in which the member has a direct interest.

12. PAWG MEETINGS: Meetings shall be conducted as follows:

a. Meetings of the PAWG shall be called by the Pinedale Field Manager, or his or her designee, or by the Chairperson of the PAWG. The Designated Federal Officer or his or her designee shall attend all meetings of the PAWG. All meetings of the PAWG will be open to the general public and news media. Any organization, association, or individual may attend, file a statement with, or make a statement before the PAWG regarding any topic(s) on the meeting agenda. In order to promote efficient meetings, the Field Manager may require prior notification by those desiring to speak, set per person presentation time limits, and require that the presentation be reduced to writing, and that copies be filed with the PAWG.

b. A notice of each meeting of the PAWG will normally be published in the Federal Register and distributed to the appropriate news media 30 days in advance of such meeting. However, if urgent circumstances prevent a 30-day notice, not less than 15 days' notice will suffice. Notices will set forth the time and place of the meeting and issues to be discussed, as well as specific times for public presentation. If it becomes necessary to postpone or cancel an announced meeting, a subsequent notice will be published in the Federal Register and distributed to the news media as early as possible and will explain the reason(s) for the postponement or cancellation.

c. The PAWG agendas must be formally approved in advance by the Pinedale Field Manager or his or her designee.

d. The PAWG will normally meet two to four times annually, but in no case less than once annually. Additional meetings may be called by the Chairperson, with the concurrence of the Field Manager.

13. TASK GROUP MEETINGS: The PAWG will establish TGs to address specific issues. These TGs will report to the PAWG. The BLM and the PAWG will establish operating procedures for the TGs consistent with the Federal Advisory Committee Act. The TGs will not give recommendations or advice to the BLM directly. The PAWG will review, consider and discuss information provided by the TGs before adopting recommendations or advice for the BLM.

14. PAWG RECORDS: Detailed minutes of each PAWG meeting will be kept and will contain a record of the persons present, a complete and accurate description of matters discussed and conclusions reached, and copies of all documents received, issued, or approved by the PAWG and copies of any advice or recommendations provided to the BLM. The accuracy of all minutes will be certified by the PAWG Chairperson. Copies of the minutes will be maintained in the BLM's Wyoming State Office and will be available for public inspection and copying during regular business hours by calling the State Office at 307-775-6256.

15. AUTHORITY: The establishment of the PAWG is in the public interest in connection with the duties and responsibilities delegated to the BLM by the Secretary in managing and further developing the oil and gas resources under the Federal Land Policy and Management Act.

AUG 13 2004
SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
Date Signed

AUG 13 2004
Date Charter Filed